

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000200040009-6

4 JANUARY 1980

TEL
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
(FOUO 1/80)

1 OF 1

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JPRS L/8844

4 January 1980

Worldwide Report

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

(FOUO 1/80)



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WORLDWIDE REPORT
TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
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CONTENTS	PAGE
ASIA	
JAPAN	
'ASAHI' Comments on Conclusion of WARC Geneva Session (Editorial; ASAHI EVENING NEWS, 12 Dec 79)	1
LATIN AMERICA	
CUBA	
Briefs Free Cuban Radio	3
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	
INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS	
Briefs ECOWAS Telecommunications Committee	4
BURUNDI	
Briefs National Telecommunications Office	5
IVORY COAST	
Briefs Hertzian Network	6

- a -

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CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
ZAIRE	
Briefs	
Telecommunications Problems	7
WEST EUROPE	
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	
France, FRG Study Direct TV Satellite Operations (Pierre Langereux; AIR & COSMOS, 20 Oct 79)	8
Briefs	
Ariane Second Stage Tested	11

- b -

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JAPAN

'ASAHI' COMMENTS ON CONCLUSION OF WARC GENEVA SESSION

OW131215 Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 12 Dec 79 p 7 OW

[Editorial, ASAHI SHIMBUN 11 December: "Radio Wave Conference"]

[Text] The World Radio Wave Conference, participated in by delegates from about 150 countries, recently wound up its two-month-long session in Geneva. The conference, which is officially called the World and Regional Administrative Conference (WARC), is held once every 20 years by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), a specialized agency of the United Nations. The aim of the conference was to conduct a review of international wireless radio communication rules and regulations.

During the past 20 years, wireless radio communication technology has made long strides. Also, in international politics, developing countries have increased their say with respect to radio waves. The fact that there is confrontation over radio waves stood out clearly at the recent conference.

At the conference, the developing countries made a strong demand that radio waves, the majority of which are allocated to advanced nations, be redistributed fairly. The developing nations want to establish a new international economic order to replace the existing system that is centered on advanced industrial countries. To bring about such a new order, they maintain that a new world information order should be created by reforming the present system which is favorable to advanced nations. The demand for the establishment of a new radio wave order was made under this contention.

Frequencies for wireless radio communication and broadcasting purposes can be used only after registering them with the ITU's International Frequency Registration Board to prevent interferences. Because they are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, almost all desired frequencies are monopolized by advanced countries.

At the recent conference, short-wave band registration procedures were partially revised. As a result, it has become possible for the board to locate unregistered frequencies on behalf of the developing countries and

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to call upon the advanced nations to relinquish their vested rights and interests, as far as those for fixed communication services are concerned. Concerning short-wave broadcasting, for which there was a strong call from developing nations, it was decided to hold a conference to redistribute frequencies country by country as soon as possible after 1982.

By demanding the establishment of a new information order, the developing countries apparently aim to place the press, broadcasting and communication services under state control. This is something the Western countries cannot accept. However, the aspiration of the developing nations to rectify the imbalance in the flow of information between the north and the south is understandable.

Besides calling on the countries in the south to observe the basic principle of the freedom of speech, the advanced nations should make efforts to meet the wishes of the developing countries particularly with respect to low-cost, easy-to-use shortwave bands. On the other hand, countries in the north should endeavor to bring about a shift to more sophisticated means of transmission, such as microwave and space communication equipment.

Another action taken by the conference that is worthy of note is the substantial increase in the number of frequency bands for space communication purposes, including the allocation anew of frequency bands for earth exploration satellites. Because of this, it was decided to hold a conference around 1984 to discuss the launching sites for communication and broadcasting satellites and the allocation by country of frequencies.

Political considerations are involved in this matter. Developing countries right under the Equator insisted that they had the right to possess the stationary satellite orbit 36,000 kilometers above the ground, while the advanced nations objected to this, claiming that space belonged to all. A closer look at the issue shows that the advanced nations do not necessarily share the same opinion on this. For instance, the early-starting U.S. is opposed to country-by-country allocation which is supported by some countries, including Japan.

Although they were not taken up by the recent WARC, there are differences between the east and West over broadcasting satellites (satellites directly transmitting broadcasting radio waves to individual listeners and viewers). Emphasizing the need for a free flow of information, such countries as the U.S. and West Germany called on the governments of radio wave-reaching countries not to prohibit their peoples from receiving information. However, socialist countries stood fast on their argument that agreement should be obtained from all the countries where radio waves reached.

With the promotion of the link between computer-processed information and communications and broadcasting in this information-oriented society, the role played by radio waves as a means of conveying information in international politics and economics is increasing by leaps and bounds.

We believe that an international perspective is being sought more than ever before for radio wave administration in Japan.

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2
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CUBA

BRIEFS

FREE CUBAN RADIO--Using the name "Radio Cubano Libre" [Free Cuban Radio], a clandestine transmitter, said to be located somewhere in the Sierra Maestra, is making anti-Castro broadcasts on a regular schedule. The announcer has adopted the use of the same pseudonym, "Comandante David," used by Castro when he operated clandestinely. [Text] [Paris VALEURS ACTUELLES in French 3 Dec 79 p 31]

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ECOWAS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE--The ad hoc committee for the Pan-African telecommunications project (Ranaftel) of ECOWAS, consisting of a Nigerian, Togolese and Beninese representative, began in mid-November a 2-month tour of member-states to study existing equipment and fees charged in order to arrive at a uniform fee system. The Beninese delegate will visit Niger, Upper Volta, Mali, Ivory Coast, Cape Verde and Benin; the Togolese delegate, Guinea, Senegal, Mauritania, Guinea-Bissau and Togo; and the Nigerian, Sam Atolaye, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana and Nigeria. They will meet in Lagos in 10 months to draft a joint report. [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 23 Nov 79 p 3267]

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BURUNDI

BRIEFS

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICE--On 19 October, the Burundian Cabinet approved a decree establishing the National Telecommunications Office (ONATEL). Burundi will soon have a telecommunications ground station which will be very useful in making the country not so isolated in regard to telecommunications. [Excerpts] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 16 Nov 79 p 3223]

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IVORY COAST

BRIEFS

HERTZIAN NETWORK--The Postal and Telecommunications Office of the Ivory Coast has contracted the SAT [Telecommunications Joint-Stock Company] to supply and install a series of digital (numerique) hertzian-wave networks, with a capacity of 480 telephone channels for handling the Abidjan, Man, and Korhogo traffic. The 12-million franc deal raises this year's contracts with SAT to almost 25 million francs. [Excerpts] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 23 Nov 79 p 3270]

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ZAIRE

BRIEFS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS--Telex and telephone usage in Zaire, already the daily nightmare of hundreds of users, has day by day become almost inaccessible to users, according to the AFP correspondent in Kinshasa. The interminable outages lasting from a few hours to several days have for weeks affected banking and commercial activities of firms in Zaire. Even the airlines and the embassies are by various "D systems" trying to remedy the absence of connections which has isolated Zaire from the rest of the world for days at a time. According to Posts and Telecommunications officials, these breakdowns are due to the lack of spare parts to maintain the ground station installed 9 years ago by ITT on a site near Kinshasa and which Zaire could not purchase for lack of financial means. To these technical reasons must be added, according to rumors circulating in the capital, the delay in the payment of back debts to the ITU [International Telecommunications Union] which probably led that organization to cut off satellite connections between Zaire and foreign countries for most of the day and night. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 2 Nov 79 p 2964]

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

FRANCE, FRG STUDY DIRECT TV SATELLITE OPERATIONS

Paris AIR & COSMOS in French 20 Oct 79 p 51

[Article by Pierre Langereux]

[Text] The CNES expects that negotiations with industry for the construction of two pilot satellites for direct telecasts, "TDF -1" for France and "TV - SAT" for Germany, should be completed by the start of the coming year. The design of these satellites, which was agreed upon at the Franco-German summit on 2 October 1979 (1), will constitute an accelerated definition study (phase B)--for a few months only -- before the start of the development stage in mid -1980. The expected successive launchings of the satellites with "Ariane" rockets, at the end of 1983 or the beginning of 1984, have been set by the CNES, with the possibility of launching the third standby satellite 6 months later. But from then on the launchings of operational satellites will have to be decided by France and/or Germany. The operational phase will actually be a "national affair" and each country will be free to announce subsequently what it expects to contribute to the "initial study and development phase" planned at Bonn as a joint Franco-German effort. The CNES estimates that in 2 years the French and German governments will have made a decision on that matter.

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Example of a conformational Thomson -CSF source emitter for the coverage of metropolitan France (in this case a telecommunications antenna)

A common platform

The design of the pilot satellites "TDF 1" and TV-SAT" will call for an identical platform in both cases. On the other hand the payload of the satellites will be somewhat different, considering the frequencies assigned to France and to Germany and the requirements imposed by the coverage of French and German territories. The antennas and output tubes of the satellites will therefore not share the same characteristics and performance while the rest of the payload will be the same for both of them. The initial phase of the program will cost 1.3 billion francs, of which 860 million will go for the study and the construction of the two pilot satellites -- plus a third "standby" model -- and about 440 million francs for the two "Ariane" launchings. Of the 220 million francs per unit 175 million will go for the purchase of the launcher, 10 million francs for project expenses and about 37 million in insurance premiums for rocket and satellite (10 percent each). As already reported, the French and German governments will each provide half of the 1.3 billion francs financing for this initial phase but the following phase will show some slight asymmetry -- 54 percent going to German industry and 46 percent to French firms -- given the more important share of France in the construction of the "Ariane" rockets.

Equal Participation of Four Companies

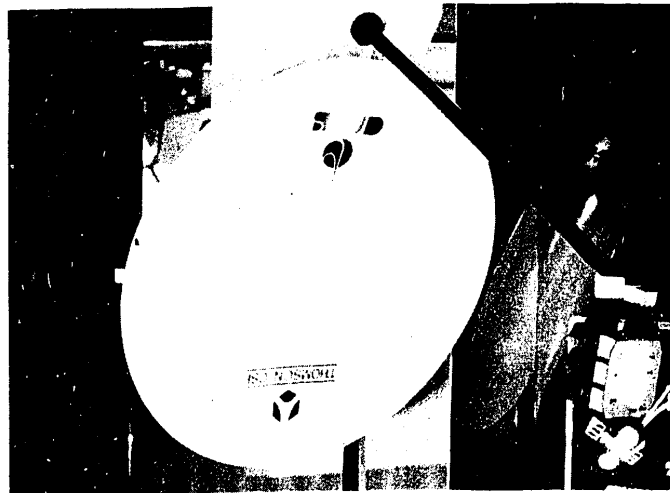
The development program for satellites "TDF 1" and "TV-SAT" will be managed by a new Franco-German executive organization (as was done for the Symphonie")

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uniting on the French side the CNES and TDF, with the DFVLR and a representative of the Federal Postal System on the German side. This executive body will be responsible for letting contracts to the Franco-German industrial team, which will include four principal commercial contractors designated for the satellite development. On the German side those companies are Messerschmitt -Bölkow -Blohm and AEG-Telefunken, with Thomson -CSF and, in principle, Aerospatiale, on the French side. But the CNES is still negotiating with the two French companies, Aerospatiale and Matra, with the final decision expected by the middle of November.

The design of the pilot satellites will thus be shared by French and German companies which will provide the common platform, with M.B.B. acting as coordinator -in principle with Aerospatiale- while Thomson-CSF will act as coordinator for the payload fabrication, jointly with AEG-Telefunken. The prime contractor, i.e. M.B.B., will in principle assure coordination of the entire work effort on the satellites. On the other hand each satellite will be completely integrated into the user country: "TDF 1" in France and "TV-SAT" in Germany. For the operational phase of the French and German satellite production organization will be strictly on a 50-50 basis, with commercial returns shared equally and alternation of the prime contractor role between the two producers of the platform.

The French and German governments have also decided to maintain a joint approach in dealing with export markets. Paris and Bonn will establish a new commercial organization, based on equal participation, within the coming months. The construction of satellites intended for foreign customers will have to be alternated equally between the French and German prime contractors.



Antenna of the French direct TV satellite designed by Thomson-CSF. It is a linear polarized multielement antenna with shaped contour, illuminating a parabolic reflector of 1.82 m diameter.

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10

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ARIANE SECOND STAGE TESTED -- A new firing up of long duration of the "Ariane" rocket's second stage was carried out successfully on 12 October in Hardt-hausen (Germany), at the test stands of the DFVLR (German Aeronautics and Space Research Agency). The test, which lasted 136 seconds and ended with the exhaustion of the propellant (UDMH), was carried out after a 48 hour "standby" of the fully prepared stage at the ramp. That was the final test of the second stage, which had previously been qualified by two prior test firings at the stands. [Text] [Paris AIR & COSMOS in French 20 Oct 79 p 53] 9291

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